

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 106-143 are pending in the application. Claims 106-143 are rejected. Through this Response and Amendment, claims 106-108, 110, 113-117, 119, 120-123, 125, 130 and 143 have been amended and claims 118 and 128 have been cancelled. No new matter has been introduced into the application. As explained in more detail below, Applicants submit that all claims are in condition for allowance and respectfully request such action.

Interview Summary

This Interview Summary is filed in relation to the Examiner Interview conducted on October 10, 2006.

The patent owner's representatives wish to thank Examiner Ye for his time during the Examiner's interview, during which the status of the application and proposed amendments were discussed. Specifically, Examiner Ye indicated that amendments more clearly indicating that a camera system comprising a lens module is in the same housing as at least one of the telecommunication components of the mobile terminal device would be allowable over the art of record. Examiner Ye indicated that the proposed amendments would require the Applicants to file an RCE since a search would have to be performed. The Applicants, therefore, have concurrently filed an RCE with the present Amendment. The patent owner's representatives appreciated the opportunity to discuss the status of the application with the Examiner.

Claim Rejections – 35 USC § 102

Claims 106, 108-113, 116-131 and 133-142 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Pat. No. 5,491,507 to Umezawa et al., ("Umezawa"). The Applicants traverse the rejection in view of the Remarks below. The Applicants respectfully request reconsideration in view of the Remarks below.

Through this Amendment and Response, independent claims 106, 113, 120, 125, 130 and 143 have been amended to more clearly indicate the camera system is within the same unitary housing as at least one telecommunications component. The subject matter of the claims are much different than the camera system disclosed in Umezawa which shows the camera (and its illustrated housing) being mounted on the outer surface of the telephone's body. As set forth in Umezawa:

The handy type video telephone equipment generally indicated by numeral 1 is mainly constructed of the body 2 thereof which is thin and flat and which is in a vertically long shape, a camera 3 which is turnably mounted on the right side surface of the body 2.

(Col. 5, lines 31-36, emphasis added). Along these lines, dependent claims 107-108, 114-117, 119, 121, 123, and 125 have also been amended to more clearly indicate the recited housing is unitary. The term "unitary" as recited in the amended claims is to more clearly recite that the same housing comprises both elements (a camera system and at least one telecommunications component), however, one skilled in the art will readily appreciate that the housing may have multiple chambers or openings, of which portions of the camera system and/or the at least one telecommunications component may extend or protrude from (such as an antenna). Moreover, one skilled in the art will realize that one or more compartments or pieces may be joined to form the unitary housing. As an example, claim 143 as currently amended, include limitations that indicate a part of the unitary housing that comprises the camera system and at least one telecommunications component is detachable, thus when not detached from the mobile terminal, the unitary structure is formed that comprises both the camera system and the at least one telecommunications protocol.

Moreover, claims 106, 113, 125, and 130 have been amended to remove the limitation that any part of the housing or the means to change the optical properties is detachable, however, the limitation is recited in dependent claims 107 and 114. Claim 110 has also been amended to more clearly indicate that in one embodiment, the entire camera system may be built within the mobile terminal device.

In view of the foregoing, the Applicants submit claims 106, 108-113, 116-131 and 133-142 contain allowable subject matter and respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection.

Claim Rejections – 35 USC § 103

Claims 107, 114-115 and 132 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Pat. No. 5,491,507 to Umezawa et al., (“Umezawa”) in view of U.S. Pat. No. 6,373,524 to Suda et al., (“Suda”). The Applicants respectfully request reconsideration.

In view of the foregoing arguments in response to the §102 rejection above, the Applicants submit claims 107, 114-115 and 132 contain allowable subject matter and respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection.

CONCLUSION

It is believed that no fee is required for this submission. If any fees are required or if an overpayment is made, the Commissioner is authorized to debit or credit our Deposit Account No. 19-0733, accordingly.

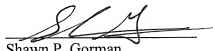
All rejections having been addressed, applicant respectfully submits that the instant application is in condition for allowance, and respectfully solicits prompt notification of the same. Should the Examiner have any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,

BANNER & WITCOFF, LTD.

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By:


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